

IN THE DRAWINGS

New sheets of formal replacement drawings in compliance with 37 C.F. R. 1.121(d) are submitted herewith to replace the originally filed informal drawings. No new matter has been added.

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 and 18-27 are pending in this application. Claim 17 has previously been cancelled without prejudice. Applicants have not amended any claims with this Response and therefore have not provided a listing of the claims. (37 CFR 1.121(c).)

Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

I. Drawing Objections

New sheets of formal drawings in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.121(d) are submitted herewith to replace the informal drawings. No new matter has been added.

Applicants respectfully request that the objection to the drawings be withdrawn.

II. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 1-16 and 18-27 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. According to the Office Action on page 3, there is no support in the original disclosure for the limitation of "the arms are movable in a laterally inward direction, in a laterally outward direction and in an upward direction away from the base such that movement of the arms in either the laterally inward direction, the laterally outward direction or the upward direction allows disengagement of the arms from the retention devices (or the releasable locking member)."

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 1-16 and 18-27 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph.

Applicants respectfully assert that support for the above-identified claim limitation maybe found throughout the specification. For example, see page 16, line 31-page 17, line 10 and originally filed claim 3. As described in the specification, "The distance between (I) the side of the retention device (4) closet to the central part of the infusion part (0B) and (II) the central part of the infusion part (0B) defines how far it is possible to move the two arms (9) of the connector in the plane parallel to the

base part (2)." (Page 16, line 31-page 17, line 1.) In other words, the arms are movable laterally inward and laterally outward. The specification also recites that "it would also be possible to free the connector (0A) from the infusion part (0B) by moving the arms (9) in a vertical direction away from the base part (2)." (Page 17, lines 3-5, emphasis added.) In other words, the arms are movable in an upward direction away from the base. This same citation in the specification also supports that movement of the arms in either the laterally inward direction, the laterally outward direction or the upward direction allows disengagement of the arms of the connector from the retention devices (or the releasable locking member) of the infusion part.

For at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 1-16 and 18-27 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, be withdrawn.

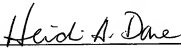
III. Summary

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully assert that the application is in condition for allowance. Allowance of the present claims is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner wish to discuss any of the above submissions in more detail, the Examiner is asked to please call the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Heidi A. Dare
Registration No. 50,775
Attorney for Applicants

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE
P.O. BOX 10395
CHICAGO, IL 60610
(312)321-4200